Spring is Here!

Dear Friends of Open Space,

The Open Space Alliance (OSA) would like to congratulate the Open Space Division on 30 years of preserving some of the most beautiful lands in the State of New Mexico! See page 14 for information on how the Alliance and the Division are celebrating this occasion. One of the best ways to celebrate Open Space is to become a member of the OSA.

We are sometimes asked what is the benefit of belonging to the OSA? We are so accustomed to measuring what we value by how we can use it. To me, the value of Open Space or public lands is less that it is not being built on, but that it is preserved for all citizens. Open Space allows humans to connect with nature, the larger whole of which we are a part.

This year, we’re excited to announce the opening of the Open Space Gift Shop, A Shop Beyond the Ordinary. We have been working to provide a venue where people can express their love of nature through ecologically-friendly gifts, books, and more! You will find unique items in the beautiful setting of the OS Visitor Center, located at 6500 Coors NW, 87120. We are now welcoming volunteers to help in the Gift Shop. See page 15 for details. Come visit on weekend days between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. starting April 26th. Proceeds generated from sales at the Gift Shop will benefit the Open Space Division. See www.openspacealliance.org for more information! Enjoy the spring and summer!

Sallie McCarthy, President

Jay Lee Evans Memorial Fund

In celebration of the life of Jay Lee Evans who passed away earlier this year, the Open Space Alliance is accepting donations for a memorial in his honor. Jay was a long time employee of Open Space and a tireless activist for Open Space and environmental justice. He was also a talented musician, artist, and performer under the stage name “Roadrunner Red.” He is greatly missed.

Make your donation to the Open Space Alliance, PO Box 91265, 87199 or online at: www.openspacealliance.org
Spring Greetings From Los Duendes Hermanos!

El Duende put on a few extra pounds over the winter and has been trying to get back into shape for trail building. El Duende recently signed up for the Mayor’s Step it Up program as a way to get back into shape. This is a perfect program for Open Space lovers! You can get a free pedometer when you sign up and there’s some great online information to help you get in shape and keep track of how many miles you walk in Open Space.

You can set goals for yourself and if you need a little extra support or motivation you can join a walking group. El Duende formed his own group; it’s called El Duende’s Group. Feel free to join us or start your own group with friends or family. To find out how you can join the Step it Up program and get a free pedometer visit www.cabq.gov or call 311.

Speaking of getting in shape, Open Space has all kinds of spring activities to help get you outside and get some exercise. Remember you have to look your best when you’re out on a raft during National River Cleanup Day on May 17th. Another good way to ease into spring is to join the Open Space Division’s Spring Cleanup projects in the Sandia foothills during April (see page 7). There are plenty of different tasks that you can get involved in on each Saturday during April. Including trash cleanup (good exercise), trail maintenance (El Duende’s favorite way to stay in shape), and graffiti removal (very good exercise).

Of course you can’t forget National Trails Day (see page 4) which will be on June 7th. This year’s theme is “Happy Trails to You” in honor of our friend and coworker Jay Evans. So come out and join El Duende and the Open Space staff, get some exercise and help take care of Open Space. And remember (turn on your secret Duende decoder rings now): spring time enlivens people in times of unbearable pressure built up over winter.

Thanks to the Crew!

The Open Space Division would like to thank the employees from the bosque maintenance crew and our equipment operators who have put in countless hours working in the field on such projects as habitat restoration, building and facilities maintenance, construction, fencing, and operating heavy machinery.

Our appreciation goes to Chris Tavasci, David Mora, Dan Lucero, Richard Rodriguez, Steve Aragon, Joseph Hidalgo, Adolph Romero, Tom Moya, Cindo Griego, Benito Gonzales, Raymond Lente, Edwin Zamora and Ray Gomez. Among their daily tasks, they have been working to create habitat features in recent bosque restoration projects, clearing the non-native vegetation, maintaining levee roads, and drilling holes for reforesting in burned areas. Many of these employees are set to retire in upcoming months, so a special shout-out and thanks to these dedicated members of the Open Space team. If you happen to see one of the Open Space crew in the field, make sure to thank them for their efforts!
POLLINATOR AWARENESS EVENT
Celebrating New Mexico Pollinator Week

WHAT: Promoting pollinator conservation with beekeepers, honey tasting, and presentations

WHERE: Open Space Visitor Center | 6500 Coors Blvd NW at the end of Bosque Meadows Rd. between Montaño and Paseo del Norte

WHEN: June 21st and 22nd | 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Imagine how bleak our diets would be without apples, melons, berries, carrots, broccoli, almonds, coffee, chocolate, and, dare I say it, chile. These foods and many other foods that nourish and comfort us depend on pollinating animals to reproduce, such as bees and wasps, flies, butterflies and moths, and beetles. Celebrate pollinators and their importance to the environment at this annual event!

2014 Open Space Summer Series

This year is the 30th anniversary of the Open Space Division and we will be utilizing existing events, such as the Summer Series to promote and celebrate our Open Spaces. Many of the Sunday Hikes will be focusing on areas the City purchased early on in the program such as Placitas, San Antonito, and the Gutierrez Canyon properties of the East Mountains.

The Summer Series runs from Memorial Day weekend, which this year falls on May 24th/25th, until the weekend just prior to Labor Day weekend, August 23rd/24th. The Saturday Sunset Series has performances and talks beginning at 7 pm on Saturday evenings at the Elena Gallegos Double Shelter Amphitheater and ending between 8 and 8:30 pm. The Sunday Hikes and activities take place on Sunday mornings in one of the Open Spaces around, and even outside of the City. They normally begin at 9 am but have been known to start earlier or later if the presenter wishes.

There is some old and new in this year’s Summer Series. The Blues Jam will be making a return along with Spoken Word and Poetry plus the always wonderful music and stories of Johanna and Scott Hongell-Darsee. The Southwestern Ghost Hunters will shake our senses and the Kubatana Marimba Band will shake our bones. There is the potential of Flamenco Dancers and a number of singer/songwriters will match the beauty of the sunsets with glorious harmonies.

For Sundays, the culmination of numerous attempts and sources has finally melded into a Bonsai demonstration. The Food Forest Project will be teaching us about sheet mulching. REI has offered a talk on Leave No Trace techniques and there’s still Qigong and Meditation and Mindfulness to quiet our minds and spirits plus the outlying hikes.

This is just a taste of the events we’re sure you’ll enjoy while we nudge you and your family to expand your views and begin a lifelong ritual of returning to your newly discovered favorite Open Spaces. Please check the full schedule in the coming months on our web site at cabq.gov/openspace under the events icon or feel free to contact Bill Pentler at 452-5222 or wpentler@cabq.gov if questions arise or you have suggestions of talks or performances for future Series. We hope you experience new wonders, enjoy old favorites, discover information that will widen your perspective of the world around you, and entice you to explore the benefits of 30 years of Open Space.
National Trails Day 2014

Calling all hikers, mountain bikers, horseback riders, and all those who love the Great Outdoors! National Trails Day is just around the corner! The Open Space Division, along with the U.S. Forest Service, the American Hiking Association, REI, other local organizations and businesses are hosting this great family-friendly event!

**WHEN:** June 7th, 2014 starting at 8:00am until about 1:00pm.

**WHERE:** The Elena Gallegos Picnic Area/Albert G. Simms Park in Albuquerque. The Elena Gallegos Open Space is located east of Tramway at the end of Simms Park Rd., just north of Academy. Parking is limited so please carpool!

**REGISTRATION:** Registration starts soon through Recreational Equipment Inc (REI). For online registration information check [www.rei.com/albuquerque](http://www.rei.com/albuquerque) or call 247-1191. The first 100 people to register will receive a free t-shirt!

**ACTIVITIES:** There will be activities for all ages and fitness levels. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Volunteers will work on over 10 different conservation projects including trash cleanup, land restoration, trail maintenance, and new trail construction.

**WHAT TO BRING:** A hat, water bottle, snacks, sunscreen, work gloves, and lots of enthusiasm! Please leave your pets at home!

**AFTER EVENT PICNIC AND PRIZES!** At the end of the event, we reward our volunteers with a free lunch and lots of prizes donated by our generous sponsors!

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**Happy Trails to You: In Memory of Open Space Volunteers We’ve Lost**

**Jack Peel:** The Open Space Division is sad to report that long time Trail Watch Volunteer Jack Peel passed away in March of 2014. Jack was an avid hiker in the Sandia Foothills and had been a Trail Watch Volunteer since 2007. Jack enjoyed hiking between Copper and Indian School and contributed over 2000 hours as an Open Space volunteer. The Peel Family invites Jack’s friends to make a donation to the Open Space Alliance in his memory.

**Jim Orr:** Jim Orr, a Trail Watch Volunteer since December of 2011, passed away this March. He was a dedicated volunteer, logging at least 30 hours a month hiking in the foothills. Jim helped patrol Open Space areas during fire season and participated in the many Spring Cleanups and the Route 66 Cleanup. He will be greatly missed.
El Duende has been very busy over the last 30 years, leaving no stone unturned as he searches for the Truth and Nothing But the Truth. One thing that has held true over the years is that life in Open Space is never, ever boring. So, here’s the latest news from Duende-Country! Enjoy! And remember, El Duende is watching, always.

**Hiking Group Celebrates Open Space’s 30th Anniversary**

A seniors hiking group from Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center celebrated the Open Space Division’s 30th anniversary by hiking 30 miles through the Sandia Foothills. The group included 95 year old Henry Pulaski who was quoted as saying, “30 years! I have underwear that’re older than that.”

**Open Space Muskrat Sees Shadow!**

Mustatawney Mel, the Open Space Muskrat emerged from his subterranean quarters at Montessa Park on February 2nd and saw his shadow, thus according to legend Mel has predicted 6 more weeks of winter. Mel also went on to predict that Mr. Hublot would win an Oscar for Best Animated Short.

**This is America!**

Carol Calyx, spokesperson for the Not In My Open Space Coalition, filed a complaint with the City of Albuquerque due to too many 5k and 10k runs on the Paseo del Bosque Trail. When asked why she objected to the races Ms. Calyx replied, “I’m not against running on the Bosque Trail, but why do we have to do it in a foreign measurement? This is America! We don’t queue and we don’t run in Kilometers!”

**Conspiracy Theory**

Conspiracy theorist, Nancy Nuttel claims to have found hidden Ilduendenati messages in the Open Space Newsletter. At press time this report could not be confirmed and calls to the Open Space Newsletter office went straight to voicemail with a cryptic Latin message saying, “Trigenta annus tutela vestri Patefacio Tractus”.

**Spring Cleanup Scandal**

Over zealous local TV investigative reporter Harry Wooffer accused Open Space staff of impropriety in soliciting donations for Spring Cleanups. “It’s all a big sham! They really just want cheddar flavored Pepperidge Farm Gold Fish”, claimed Wooffer. Resource Management spokesman Brad Greenside admitted that while some staff had recently consumed some out of date Gold Fish snacks left over from last year that the real reason for holding Spring Cleanups is to cleanup trash and dog poop, and to keep trails maintained.
Open Space Fun Facts!

The following is short list of the very first parcels purchased by the City of Albuquerque as Major Public Open Space

- **August 12th 1958**: Five acre parcel on the West Mesa.
- **December 11th, 1958**: Montessa Park—Named after a Spanish motocross Motorcycle, although spelling is slightly different with only one “s” (Montesa).
- **January 27th, 1959**: Another five acre parcel was purchased on the West Mesa.
- **September 7th, 1962**: 640 acres of the West Mesa were purchased to protect as public land.
- **December 31st, 1963**: East Mountain properties including Gutierrez Canyon, Carolino Canyon, Four Hills (Via Posada), and part of the Golden Open Space

A Bargain at Any Other Price! What the City Paid for Early Open Space Parcels

All of these Open Space lands were former BLM lands and cost $2.50/acre through the Recreation for Public Purposes Act.

- Gutierrez Canyon – 300 acres for $750.00
- Carolino Canyon - 27 acres for $67.50
- Golden – 1180 acres for $2,950.00
- San Antonito– 168 acres for $420.00
Spring Cleanups in the Sandia Foothills

**What:** Join us for our annual Spring cleaning of the Sandia Foothills. Tasks include trash clean-up, graffiti removal, and trail maintenance. Bring water, work gloves, and dress for the weather. Please call 452-5213 to register groups of ten or more.

**When:** From 8:30am-1:00pm at the following Open Space areas. Call 452-5200 or e-mail kswanson@cabq.gov for more information.

Please bike, walk, or carpool! Parking is limited!

- April 5 – Copper Trailhead
- April 12 – Embudo Canyon (Indian School)
- April 19 – Menaul Picnic Area
- April 26 – Piedra Lisa Open Space (south of the east end of Candelaria)

Too Weird *Not* to Be True

**Tales from Open Space, Collected from the Trail Watch News and the Open Space News**

So, not to compete with the excellent, award-winning reporting of *El Duende* and his extremely popular *La Cebolla* column, but we couldn’t resist offering these all too real tidbits that have appeared in past editions of the Open Space Newsletter:

**From Vol 2, Number 1, January-March 1995:**

**A Large Cat Observed Near Petroglyphs:** In October, a resident near the Petroglyph National Monument reported seeing a large cat in the area. It was reported in the newspaper as a mountain lion. A few days later it was sighted again by rangers and it was determined to be a very large exotic domestic cat.

**Graffiti:** In November, TWV Ed Holland discovered that person(s) unknown had spray painted a huge heart on a boulder with the words “Carols loves Jeesica” inside the heart at the Menaul trailhead. The graffiti was removed.

**Burial Urn Found:** TWV Don Heuszel found a burial urn containing the ashes of an individual identified by an inscription on the urn. The urn was returned to the family for proper disposition.

**From Vol 3, Num 1, January-March 1996:**

Jim: I finished the little re-route on I-40, though some visitors were looking rather perplexed as I made the last connecting bit and began rolling about on the ground in amongst the spit, blood, and snow shouting, “Take me! Take me to the Sea! Why make me wait? Please, take me to the Sea!” Needless to say the visitors were somewhat relieved as I recovered from the episode and cleaned the drool off my face with one of those toilet rags and some snow. Yes, the process has been somewhat delayed once again.

~Mike
Trail Watch and Adopt an Open Space Training

When: June 11th, 2014, 3:00 PM - 5:30 PM
Where: Open Space Visitor Center
6500 Coors Rd. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120

Registration is required and space is limited! Call Jolynn Maestas at 452-5207 or e-mail jmaestas@cabq.gov for information. Join the City of Albuquerque Open Space Division volunteer team and support a community-based commitment to promote conservation and appreciation for the integrity of our local public lands.

The Major Public Open Space System includes over 29,000 acres of diverse lands, including the Elena Gallegos Picnic Area, Rio Grande Valley State Park, parts of Petroglyph National Monument, and select areas in the East Mountains. Effective management of these special areas is enhanced by public involvement through volunteering.

Trail Watch Volunteers are the eyes and ears of Open Space. Volunteers report conditions and problems on trails, educate the public on extraordinary natural and cultural resources, direct visitors to practice good land and trail use ethics, and lend a hand on conservation projects such as trail building. Adopt-an-Open Space volunteers, in addition to Trail Watch responsibilities, maintain trails or areas through hands-on conservation projects.

Faces From Open Space History
The Open Space News Turns 20!

For fans of Open Space Trivia, We Present the First Open Space Newsletter Ever, 20 Years Old this Year!

A Quarterly Newsletter of the Open Space Division
Vol 1, No. 1, Oct/Nov/Dec 1994

WELCOME TO TRAIL WATCH NEWS

The Open Space Division is pleased to present our first edition of Trail Watch News. This publication was something that our volunteers wanted for a more readily means of getting information out. The Newsletter will be published quarterly and will include information that our Division needs to get to our volunteers. In addition, any volunteer wishing to submit an article can do so. Any suggestions on how we can improve our Newsletter are always welcomed.

The Trail Watch News will also have features on items of special interest and articles about a Trail Watch Volunteer and what they experience in the areas that they frequent most often.

Trail Watch News will be mailed to all volunteers on a quarterly basis so it is important that you keep your address current with us. If there are any changes, please contact Paul Willems or Lindsay Day, Trail Watch Coordinators, at 873-6632.

NEW SUPERINTENDENT FOR OPEN SPACE

With the retirement of Rex Funk as Superintendent of Open Space in July 1994 the City of Albuquerque is pleased to announce that Jay Hart has been selected as the new Superintendent. Jay has worked with Open Space since it was created in 1979 and was Assistant Superintendent of Operations for Open Space before this promotion.

A LETTER FROM OUR SUPERINTENDENT

It is a great pleasure to present our first newsletter for the Open Space Division and to especially recognize the efforts of our volunteers participating in our Trail Watch Volunteer Program. Our volunteers are important to us and we wish to make every effort to make this program work for you as well as for Open Space. Any suggestions that you have (Continued on page 2)

CHIEF’S CORNER

I wish to thank all of our volunteers for the many hours each of you have contributed to the Open Space Trail Watch Volunteer Program. Because of your direct support, we at Open Space have been able to accomplish many things and identify other problem areas and fix them. Without your help, some of those problem areas would have gone unnoticed and perhaps become serious in nature. Continue to identify these problems on your worksheets.

We are going to have a limited number of radios available very shortly. More details of how we are going to utilize them will be forthcoming in our next Trail Watch News. We are considering selecting coordinators for the areas they frequent most. If you think you would be interested in becoming a coordinator for a particular area please contact our office.

Stephen Thomas
The Open Space Visitor Center Presents:
Land Arts of the American West: Rio Grande Watershed
International Land Art Projects

When: May-June 2014, Opening May 3rd, Reception 3pm-5pm

Where: This exhibit will accumulate new works at the the Open Space Visitor Center then travel to another location along the Rio Grande river, where it will accumulate more artwork.

What: A traveling exhibit of works from Land Arts partners: Australian National University Field Studies Program, Mira Costa College Land Arts Program, and Local UNM Land Arts practitioners. This exhibit will include a gallery show and field component focusing on the Rio Grande watershed. Watershed Bounding is a collection of work from the practice of field-based artists who locate their creative process and critical inquiry in the ecologic conditions of “Place”. Showcased in this exhibition are works from Land Arts of the American West students, alumni, faculty, and visiting artists curated around the theme of Watershed. Alongside this is the international traveling exhibition, “Boundless Horizons” which samples work from partnering field-based art studio programs like Australian National University, Field Studies and Mira Costa College, Landmarks of Art, from San Diego.

Featured artists include: Amanda Stuart, Amelia Zaraftis, Bill Gilbert, Heike Qualitz, John Reid, Marzena Wasikowska, Yoshi Hayashi, Bill Gilbert, Cedra Wood, Chitra Sangtani, Chrissie Orr, Erika Osborne, Geordie Shepard, Jeanette Hart-Mann, Lauren Greenwald, Lea Andresson, Randal Romwalter, and Ryan Henel. Land Arts of the American West (http://landarts.unm.edu/) at the University of New Mexico, is an ongoing experiment and interdisciplinary model for creative and critical arts pedagogy based in place. This program puts students in direct contact with “place” of the American Southwest through Field Investigations, Research, Creative Production, and Public Presentation/Dissemination of projects. During the program, students travel extensively throughout the Southwest for over 60 days, while camping and investigating environmental sites, human habitation systems, and questions facing the region. Methodologies include the melding of direct experience, critical research, creative inquiry, interdisciplinary collaboration, and artistic production. Recent topics of investigations have focused on issues of the Rio Grande Watershed, US/Mexico Border, Foodshed, Utopian Architecture, and Eminent Domain.
The 6th Annual Recycled Art Fair and Revived Gallery Show

When: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, April 26th, and Sunday, April 27th,

Where: Open Space Visitor Center, 6500 Coors Rd. NW, 87120

What: During the fair, enjoy vendors selling a variety of arts and crafts. We will have “Revived,” a juried art exhibit in the Visitor Center main gallery the months of March and April. The mission of the 2014 Recycled Art Fair is to instill in participants that they are integral to and dependent upon the cycles that sustain life.

*Schedule of Events:

Saturday the 26th:

• Art workshop with Art Street
• Slam Poetry & Open Mic
• Kids’ activities
• Tin punch aluminum workshop
• Home Composting Basics
• Play the REshopping game “Drop til you Shop”
• Music
• Silent Auction
• 40+ Upcycle Art & educational booths

Sunday the 27th:

• Revived Art show finalists announced
• Music with Last Call
• Web of Life Foundation - the cycles in the wild
• Rachel Carson chatauqua
• Play the REshopping game “Drop til you Shop”
• Silent Auction
• 40+ Upcycle Art & educational booths

*Schedule is subject to change! Check www.cabq.gov/openspace for a final schedule.

About the Recycled Art Fair: From the water cycle to the carbon cycle, promoting and respecting natural cycles is an integral part of the City of Albuquerque Open Space Division’s (OSD) Mission, and how the Division manages the City’s Major Public Open Space lands. The mission of the 2014 Recycled Art Fair is to instill in participants that they are integral to and dependent upon the cycles that sustain life.
APRIL 2014

*ONGOING: FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH, 7:30 AM. Guided Bosque Nature Walk. Registration is recommended one month in advance.

Every Sunday, 9:00am -10:30am, Yoga with a View. Yoga with instructor Jenny Dominque. $15.00 donation. A portion of the donation benefits the Open Space Alliance.

*April 5 and 6, 11:00am-3:00pm, Pinch pot workshop with Michael Kanteena. $30 fee. MUST pre-register. Space is limited to 20 people, 7 years old and up. $30.00 fee.

*April 13th and 20th, 12 pm to 4 pm, Workshop Series on Food Forests: Growing the Way Nature Does It. Each workshop requires a fee. Call 897-8831 for details. Presented by Mona Angel, Anne Carpenter, and Patty Parks-Wasserman. Registration required.

April 26th and 27th, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. 6th Annual Recycled Art Fair. Learn about upcycling, re-use, repurposing and recycling at the 6th Annual Recycled Art Fair! See page 11 for details.

MAY 2014


Every Sunday, 9:00am - 10:30am. Yoga with a View. See April listing.

May 3rd, 10:00am - 1:00pm, Piedras Marcadas Pueblo Tour and Presentation. Call 897-8831 for details.

May 3rd, 3:00pm-5:00pm, Gallery opening Land Art of the American West. See page 10 for details.

*May 4th, May 18th, and May 25th, 12 pm to 4 pm. Workshop Series on Food Forests: Growing the Way Nature Does It. See April description.

*May 10th, Certified beekeeper program. Call 897-8831 for more information.

*May 11th, New Mexico Waterfalls slideshow with Doug Scott. Books will be for sale. Limit 30 participants.

May 17th, 2:00 - 4:00 pm, Cats and Wildlife by Sara Jayne Cole. The importance of our “urban refuge” for wildlife. In celebration of Migratory Bird Day Ways.

JUNE 2014


Every Sunday, 8:00am - 9:30am. Yoga with a View. Please note summer hours from June-August.

*June 1st, 11:00am-1:30pm, Traditional Herbs of New Mexico with Dara Saville. $25.00.

*June 7th, Beginning Beekeeping with Les Crowder.


*This event requires pre-registration. Call 897-8831 or email openspace@cabq.gov to register.

The Open Space Visitor Center is located at 6500 Coors Blvd NW between Montaño and Paseo del Norte at the end of Bosque Meadows.
Open Space News

Open Space 30th Anniversary Trivia
Test Your Knowledge of the Division’s History!

1. What year was the Trail Watch Volunteer program started?
2. Which Open Space area contains the remains of a prison?
3. What federal program did the City take advantage of during the 1960’s to obtain surplus BLM land that later became Open Space?
4. Name 4 East Mountain City of Albuquerque Open Space properties.
5. Name the two City of Albuquerque Open Space properties that can be found in Sandoval County.
6. What multi-legged, furry little creatures can be seen traveling across roads and throughout Open Space in and around October?
7. What exotic tree species grows in the bosque and was the tree referenced in the book entitled, “A Tree Grows in Brooklyn”?
8. Name three tree species found in Open Space that are susceptible to mistletoe.
9. What 1839 land grant is associated with the Golden Open Space?
10. Who originally received the Elena Gallegos Land Grant from the King of Spain in 1694?
11. The Tres Pistolas Open Space was originally part of what land grant?
12. What do Albert G. Simms and Diego Montoya have in common?
13. Westland Development Corporation was founded by the heirs of what land grant?
14. Name three movies that were filmed in Open Space areas.
15. Name a grassroots community organization instrumental in assuring the purchase of the Elena Gallegos Grant?
16. True or False? Sandhill Cranes take a new mate every Spring.
17. Which of the following is NOT an Open Space “X-file:’’ A. Sacrificed chickens in the Sandia Foothills; B. The Foothills Coconut Cult; C. The Foothills Potato Suicide Cult; D. Crop Circles at the Hubbell Oxbow; E. The Montessa Hum; F. Chupacabra sightings on the West Mesa; G. Two-headed prairie dogs.

ANSWERS:

Vacant Positions on Open Space Advisory Board

Currently there are two open positions for citizens to become members on the Open Space Advisory Board. This seven member board meets once a month (4th Tuesday, 1:30 PM at the Open Space Visitor Center) and works to study, advise, and help implement plans regarding the Open Space lands in the City. Open Space Volunteers make perfect candidates for the Board.

The term of office is three years. Membership on the board offers unique opportunities for concerned citizens to help the City and the Open Space Division make the best decisions and plans for the Open Space going forward.

More information and the application to serve are on the City’s website: www.cabq.gov
Join the Open Space Division in celebrating 30 years of protecting Albuquerque’s Natural Heritage!

When: Aug 8th, 2014 from 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Where: The Open Space Visitor Center, 6500 Coors Rd. NW, 87120, 505-897-8831

In case you haven’t heard, the City of Albuquerque Open Space Division is celebrating thirty years of preserving your Open Space lands! While the city’s acquisition of Open Space properties began in the sixties, the division itself wasn’t created until 1984.

At that time, the planning, maintenance, and enhancement responsibilities of Open Space were formalized. By last year, Open Space lands comprised about 30,000 acres, making our City one of the foremost in the United States for parkland. Today, the Open Space Division staff and hundreds of volunteers work side-by-side to maintain public land for the citizens of Albuquerque.

Join us this year in taking a look back through the Division’s history: we will see how these lands have changed and how the community and the OSD have worked together for over three decades. We will also look ahead at the challenges we face as a community and a City, and ways our community can further protect and enjoy our natural places.

You are invited to participate in OSD’s 30th anniversary with a story, poem, photo, video or other expression of your relationship with these lands. The deadline is June 8th. Submissions will be displayed at the 30th Anniversary Celebration at the Open Space Visitor Center on August 9th from 5-8 pm. There will be presentations, music, and kids’ activities.

As Rex Funk, the first Superintendent of the Division has written: “Major Public Open Space didn’t just happen; it took the vision and foresight of early City officials such as Bob Burgan, the first Parks and Recreation Department director, to take advantage of the sale of federal public lands. It took the grassroots labor of individuals, such as Ruth Eisenberg, the “Volcano Lady,” to rally the community around beloved but threatened, landscapes. And it took the community to recognize the importance of defending these landscapes and vote to protect them.”

Duende Departures

Associate Planner and Duenda Susannah Abbey will be moving to the Strategic Design and Planning Division of the Parks and Recreation Department. Her many contributions to the Open Space Division include planning and implementing improvements to the Open Space Visitor Center and other Open Space properties, completing the Tijeras Arroyo Biozone Plan, and doing some amazing graphic design work promoting Open Space.

Semper architectus autem Semper a Duenda. Felices vos diam!
Volunteer at the Open Space Visitor Center Giftshop!

Are you passionate about preserving Open Space lands?

The Open Space Alliance is opening a gift shop at the Open Space Visitor Center (OSVC) on Coors. If you enjoy working with the public, are passionate about preserving open space lands, and are comfortable with retail cash transactions, then we want to talk to you!

The gift shop will be open 10am to 4pm on weekends starting April 26th. If you're interested in volunteering, please call Kristy at 505-715-1070 or email kristy@openspacealliance.org.

The Open Space Alliance is a nonprofit organization promoting public awareness and conservation of Open Space lands. The OSVC is located at 6500 Coors Blvd. NW, 87120 in Albuquerque.

Get involved in the Open Space Alliance today and contribute to the future of YOUR Open Space!

Your generous contribution to the Open Space Alliance supports OSA’s mission of enhancing our quality of life through: heightening public awareness of Open Space lands; building and strengthening partnerships with groups who share Open Space values; promoting conservation, acquisition, and stewardship of Open Space lands; strengthening volunteerism and community outreach programs; and providing financial support.

For information about our current activities, contact Sallie McCarthy, OSA Board President, at mccarthy_sal@hotmail.com

To join, please fill out the information and return the form with your check or money order.

NAME: _________________________________ Date: __________

ADDRESS: ____________________________________________

CITY: __________________ STATE: __________ ZIP CODE: ______________

HOME PHONE: __________________ E-MAIL: __________________

NEWSLETTER PREFERENCE:
( ) E-Mail ( ) Printed Version Mailed to My Address ( ) Both ( ) No Newsletter

( ) NEW MEMBER ( ) $15 STUDENT (18 & UNDER) / SENIOR ( ) $250 SUSTAINING
( ) RENEWAL ( ) $20 INDIvidual ( ) $500 CORPORATE
( ) TRAILS DAY ( ) $30 FAMILY ( ) $1000 LIFE MEMBER

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Open Space Alliance, P.O. Box 91265, Albuquerque, NM 87199